



RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE THE CITY'S URBAN TREE CANOPY TO AT LEAST 35 PERCENT BY 2035.

WHEREAS, Section 6-1403(f) of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (2017 Edition) requires the Director of Parks and Recreation to "[b]eautify the public parks, facilities and streets of the [C]ity, including, but not limited to, the planting, trimming and maintaining of all shade trees, hedges and shrubs on such [C]ity parks, facilities and streets except hedges and shrubs on traffic medians, triangles, circles, and other traffic calming appurtenances"; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Department of Parks and Recreation's ("DPR") Division of Urban Forestry is tasked with, among other things, propagating, planting, trimming, watering, and maintaining shade trees, concrete planters, and other ornamental plants cultivated along public roadways, and in parks and malls in the City and County of Honolulu ("City"); and

WHEREAS, the City's urban tree canopy, which is the layer of leaves, branches, and stems of trees in the City that cover urban City grounds when viewed from above, has been decreasing in recent years; and

WHEREAS, a 2012 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Report ("Report") prepared by the University of Vermont's Spatial Analysis Laboratory found that only about 20 percent of the land categorized as an urban land use in Honolulu is occupied by a tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the Report noted that an additional 53 percent of the urban City area assessed could theoretically be modified to accommodate new tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the Report further noted that of that 53 percent, 35 percent of the urban City area assessed is conducive to establishing new tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the City's urban tree canopy provides many benefits to the City including, among other things, improving water quality, saving energy, lowering ambient temperatures, reducing air pollution, enhancing property values, providing wildlife habitat, facilitating social and educational opportunities, and providing aesthetic benefits; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, the Council believes that increasing the City's urban tree canopy to at least 35 percent by 2035 would enhance and increase the above-mentioned benefits to the City, its residents, the public in general, and the City's wildlife for years to come; now, therefore,



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 18-55

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the City Administration is urged to take steps toward increasing the City's urban tree canopy to at least 35 percent by the year 2035; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that those steps should include considering expansion of the urban tree canopy on City properties and measures that can be taken to encourage the State of Hawaii and private property owners to increase the tree canopies on their respective properties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administration is requested to report back to the Council within 120 days of the adoption of this resolution to update the Council on its progress toward reaching the above-mentioned goal; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, Managing Director, and the Director of Parks and Recreation.

INTRODUCED BY:

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAR 1 2018

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 18-55

Introduced: 03/01/18 By: TREVOR OZAWA

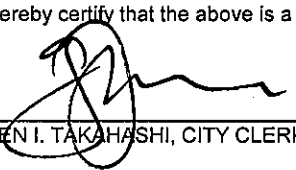
Committee: PARKS, COMMUNITY AND
CUSTOMER SERVICES

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE THE CITY'S URBAN TREE CANOPY TO AT LEAST
35 PERCENT BY 2035.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

03/20/18	PARKS, COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES	CR-99 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION.
03/28/18	COUNCIL	CR-99 AND RESOLUTION 18-55 WERE ADOPTED. 8 AYES: ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, OZAWA, PINE. 1 ABSENT: ANDERSON.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.


GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK


ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER